

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

GRIFFIN, Michael D. et al.

Serial Number: **Filed herewith**

Examiner: **Not yet assigned**

Filed: **Filed herewith**

Art Unit: **Not yet assigned**

For: **SAFETY SCALPEL**

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir or Madam:

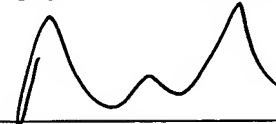
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, disclosure is made of the following known related art listed in the accompanying Information Disclosure Citation, Form PTO-1449.

Applicant hereby cites the patents and/or publications on the attached form for consideration by the Patent and Trademark Office in regard to the claimed invention. By this notice, Applicant requests that the Patent and Trademark Office make of record the documents listed. No representation is made that more pertinent material is not available or should not be considered by the Examiner. It is expected that the Patent and Trademark Office will independently conduct a complete search of appropriate prior art. Furthermore, no admission is being made that these documents are prior art, and Applicant reserves the right to challenge any such conclusion.

Should there be any remaining or further questions, the Examiner is requested to please contact the undersigned directly. It is not believed that any additional fees are due. However, in the event additional fees are due, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge Applicant's Attorney's Deposit Account No. 03-2030.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 12th, 2004

Enclosure
Information Disclosure Statement

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Form PTO-1449 (Rev. 8-83)		U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office		Atty. Docket No. 03-12896		Serial No. Filed herewith	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)				Applicant Griffin, Michael D. et al.			
				Filing Date Filed herewith		Group Not yet assigned	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
XMR INIT*		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	AA	6,629,985	10/07/2003	Kiehne	606	167	03/09/2000
	AB	6,626,925	09/30/2003	Newman et al.	606	167	03/29/2001
	AC	D473,649	04/22/2003	Howell et al.	D24	147	02/28/2002
	AD	6,053,929	04/25/2000	Cohn et al.	606	167	03/22/1999
	AE	5,941,892	08/24/1999	Cohn et al.	606	167	03/31/1998
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
Examiner:					Date Considered:		

* Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.